

REMARKS

In response to the pending Office Action, Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 3 in order to overcome the § 102 rejections and objections. In addition, Applicants have rewritten claim 5 in independent format and amended claim 7 to reflect the change in claim dependency from cancelled claim 3 to claim 1. Claim 3 has been cancelled, without prejudice. No new matter has been added.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter recited by claims 3 and 5-12 as set forth in the May 3, 2006 Office Action. As such, in view of the above amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 set forth in the Office Action be withdrawn.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 3, 2006